

SENATE BILL NO. 471

INTRODUCED BY G. PERRY

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE USE OF CERTAIN TOWING AND LIGHTING EQUIPMENT FOR TOWING A DISABLED VEHICLE ON A HIGHWAY; AND PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Towing equipment required -- exceptions. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), a motor vehicle may not be used to tow a disabled vehicle on a highway unless the motor vehicle and the vehicle being towed are connected by a rigid tow bar or other solid connecting device. Chains, cables, or ropes may not be used as the sole means for towing a vehicle.

(2) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1), the vehicle being towed must, at any time from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, be equipped with at least one properly functioning taillamp mounted on the rear of the vehicle that emits a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.

(3) The provisions of this section do not apply to vehicles being towed on gravel roads or to vehicles being used for farming or other agricultural operations.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 61, chapter 9, part 4, and the provisions of Title 61, chapter 9, part 4, apply to [section 1].

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